

MCCES

"The Connector"



Special Points of Interest:

- SASOP Published
- NCO/Marine of the Quarter
- Wildfire Danger
- New CO's and 1stSgt
- Softball Domination

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Upcoming Events

MCCES 2nd annual 10K / Half/Full Marathon - 29 Sep 06

MCCES 180-mile Run Challenge to Las Vegas - 14 Oct 06

MCCES Birthday Ball
9 Nov 06

Commanding Officer Sends -

The week of 10-16 July will be a memorable one for all Yucca Valley residents. A catastrophic fire continues to burn uncontained throughout that area. A voluntary evacuation order was given for residents North of Sunny Slope Rd and SR247. Coincidentally, our chaplain wrote a very good article in this edition of our newsletter discussing "Life is a the test". How appropriate for Yucca Valley. There are many lessons to be learned from the fire such as how to be better prepared. With this test will come a rebirth and new growth.

How prepared is MCCES? We know Dental and Medically we are not. I need your help with IRT readiness. We need you to go to medical and dental for your birth month Physical Health Assessments and Dental exams. With your help, we can raise our readiness rates.

XO

The Commanding Officer signed the School Academic Standing Operating Procedures ScholO P15500.5H on 26 June 2006. This order cancels the previous edition -ScholO P1500.5G.

The SASOP manual serves as the primary reference for matters affecting student operations and instructor support. The manual standardizes policies, metrics, criteria, and procedures for all academic processing and programs.

The order also governs all aspects that support the receipt, processing, training, and dispositioning of personnel in designated primary occupational specialties for service in the Operating Forces.

Requirements in this manual are binding to all MCCES personnel. Any deviation from instructions contained herein must be authorized by the Commanding Officer, MCCES.



Local Wild Fire

sparked by dry-lightning have burned non-stop since the 4th of July weekend. The first two fires were located in the Pushwalla and Berdoo Canyons in the Joshua Tree Nat'l Park. Fortunately for the fire crews a day of rain helped in their containments. Three more fires broke out a couple days later in Whitewater, the Indian reservation, and the Sawtooth Complex. The first two were contained, but the Sawtooth Complex / Pioneertown fire blazed out of control with winds sweeping in on July 11th. To date nearly 70,000 acres have felt the sting of the flames with property loss as well. Fire crews have been working 24/7 fighting mother nature's wrath. They ask that no one enter a burned area until it has been cleared for entry by fire officials.

NEWS FLASH – MCCES Softball Sweeps CG's Finals – By GySgt P. Miller



MCCES' Softball Team brought home the CG's Trophy on Thursday, 13 July after dominating the regular season with a 16-1 record. They slammed through the finals with a 4-0 winning record making them the Base Champs for the 2006 season. **Cpl Thomas Ferris**, MCCES Supply and right-centerfielder was selected as the tournament MVP for MCCES.

See the next issue of the Connector for more information on this powerhouse team.



Headquarters

Company welcomes Major Nicholas Lourian. Maj Lourian's previous tour was with 9th Comm Battalion, Camp Pendleton where he served as Commanding Officer, Alpha Company; and Operations Officer.



Charlie

Company welcomes First Sergeant Michael Diaz. 1stSgt Diaz's previous tour was with Headquarters Bn, Camp Lejeune where he served as the First Sergeant of HQBn Bravo Company and Military Police Company.

Camera Shy

Alpha Company welcomes Major Danny Morales. Maj Morales' previous tour was with HQBN 3DMARDIV G-6 Camp Courtney, Okinawa, Japan where he served as the Maintenance Officer.

"I still need Marines who can shoot and salute. But I need Marines who can fix jet engines and man sophisticated radar sets, as well."
-General Robert E. Cushman, Jr., USMC, 17 May 1974.

NCO and Marine of the Quarter – By Bravo and HQ Staff



Sergeant Cedric Swan Earned the title of MCCES NCO of the Quarter during a Battalion competition held on 7 July 2006.

Sgt Swan enlisted in the Marine Corps on 29 May 2001 and attended recruit training at MCRD, San Diego, CA. He graduated boot camp on 24 August 2001. Following Marine Combat Training Sgt Swan reported to Bravo Company, MCCES, and attended the (TTS) Transmission Training Section (FROC), Field Radio Operators Course. After completion of his MOS school he was assigned as a Field Radio Operator on 5 December 2001.

From December 2001 to May 2004 Sgt Swan served with 1st Battalion 7th Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, MCAGCC 29 Palms, CA. During his tour of duty Sgt Swan was BSO from the Headquarters & Services Co, Communication Platoon to Weapons Company 81mm Platoon from February 2002 to July 2004. Sgt Swan also served as the senior radio operator for

Weapons Company in numerous field operations, including Operation Enduring Freedom.

Upon promotion to the rank of Corporal he was ordered back to H&S Co, Communications Platoon serving as the Radio Supervisor, and shortly there after becoming the NCOIC of the Mobile Radio Section. In March 2004 he graduated from Corporals Course with honors.

On 29 May 2004 Sgt Swan reported to Bravo Company MCCES for duty as an Instructor with the Transmission Training Section.

Sgt Swan was sent to attend training at Camp Lejeune, NC on newer communications equipment introduced to the Marine Corps. He returned to write the curriculum for his section.

In April 2005, he went TAD to the ICE MTT Improvised Explosive Device Countermeasure Equipment Mobile Training Team to Fallujah, Iraq, for 5 months to teach, train and install Electronic Counter Measures systems (ECM) for MNF-W Iraq.

While in Iraq he trained over 500 military members and installed over 50 systems in combat vehicles to stop Improvised Explosive Devices. Sgt Swan also served as the MNF-W duty expert on the ICE systems aboard Camp Fallujah, Iraq. Upon returning from Iraq, Sgt Swan attended and graduated Sergeant's Course.

Sgt Swan's awards include; Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Naval Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global

War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service, (3) Sea Service Deployment Ribbons.



Lance Corporal Jonathon R. Hoth earned the title of MCCES Marine of the Quarter during a Battalion competition held on 7 July 2006.

Lance Corporal Hoth was born on April 21, 1986 in Billings, MT. Upon graduation from high school in August 2004, he joined the Marine Corps and attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA. In January 2005, he reported to Camp Johnson, North Carolina for training as an Administration Clerk.

In March 2005, LCpl Hoth reported to Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, Twentynine Palms, CA and is assigned to the New Joins/Pay section where he is a Diary clerk. From September to October 2005 he was a member of the MCCES Rifle and Pistol Team where he achieved his second award expert.

Note from Reproduction

Standard request time for ALL reproduction jobs is at least 1-week out from requested due date. (Priorities can change delivery time)

Problem 1. "Oops I forgot" and finger-pointing that materials were not requested for a new class on deck. Prior proper planning prevents

Problem 2. Instructors/staff not picking up their jobs. We do not have a large storage space. Come pick up your job.

Problem 3. Instructors like to add their own "spice" (*good to have as a training aide – multi-sheet documents not previously used during the course of instruction*) to the curriculum. Any deviation from the approved material **MUST** be approved by the Training Administrator before reproduction. (Mr. Surratt, Mr. Hamrick, Ms. Hodge). This is the only way we can budget for supplies throughout the year.

If the problems do not improve the Reprographics Facility will implement a "chief instructor signature only" policy to ensure proper materials are ordered and picked up on time.

What this means: All classroom training material requests will be dropped off by the Chief Instructor. This will ensure accountability.

Any concerns with this may be directed to LtCol Cook, Dir Ops at 830-6531.

Instructor Earns Jump Wings with Honors

-By Charlie Company Staff



Class 27-06 began the Basic Airborne Course, a three week adventure, on May 12 in Fort Benning, Georgia. The Army course began with 384 students and a lot of motivation to receive their "Jump Wings." SSgt Michael McConachie (C Co TDSTS Instructor) was assigned as the course Platoon Sergeant while attending the 1st Battalion 507th Airborne Infantry Division course. The assignment of a Marine as the Platoon Sergeant in an Army Course is both an Honor and a challenge; a Marine expects and demands a Challenge! The course consists primarily of Special Forces personnel (Navy SEALs, Air Force Para-Jumpers, Army Paratroopers/ Special Forces, and Recon/Force

Reconnaissance Marines) who are by nature extremely competitive, and difficult for any Platoon Sergeant to lead.

On June 2, 2006 **SSgt McConachie walked across the Parade Deck as the Class Honor Graduate**. He and a finely honed class of 280 students received their completion certificates and "Jump Wings". He will soon PCS to MCAS Miramar to become a member of the Third Marine Aircraft Wing while serving as a Systems Administrator at Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 38.

Left: SSgt McConachie giving the "thumbs up" before his first jump.

Sergeant Major's Corner

Think of life's many obstacles as stepping stones. The more you get past the closer you are to your goals. ★K out



News from the Career Planner - By Sgt B. S. Callendar

Always ensure MCCES and HQMC have sufficient time to act on reenlistment requests. Also check out ACRS in MOL under resources.

**A TOTAL OF \$249,000
REENLISTMENT DOLLARS HAVE BEEN
AWARDED TO MCCES MARINES.**

REENLISTMENTS/EXTENSIONS

MGySgt Danecker	36 mos	SSgt Rasmussen	55 mos
1stSgt Cochran	48 mos	SSgt Stephens	50 mos
MSgt Tate	48 mos	SSgt Wolf	58 mos
GySgt Dykes	48 mos	Sgt DeGroote	24 mos
GySgt Hensley	59 mos	Sgt Gilbertson	48 mos
GySgt Rangel	52 mos	Sgt Kisse	36 mos
SSgt Girbach	52 mos	Sgt McFaden	36 mos
SSgt Hall	59 mos	Sgt Randolph	59 mos
SSgt Haney	59 mos	Sgt Roberts	57 mos
SSgt Montano	49 mos		

Hails, Farewells, Promotions, and Awards

HAILS

Maj N. Lourian
Maj D. Morales
CWO2 J. Thompson
1stLt E. Cassleman
1stSgt M. Diaz
MSgt B. Baker
GySgt B. Britt
GySgt W. Chatten
GySgt M. Lenwell
SSgt S. Carter
SSgt T. Mizzell
SSgt J. Orozco
SSgt T. Orr
SSgt J. Peterson
Sgt F. Campos
Sgt D. Claveria
Sgt B. Delrosario
Sgt B. Fellows
Sgt V. Hernandez
Sgt M. Whitt
Cpl V. Garcia

Cpl C. Green

Cpl A. Medina
LCpl J. Anderson
LCpl T. Bexton
LCpl H. Biagianti
PFC K. Alexander
PFC b. Mersereau
PFC F. Ortizmarquez
PFC R. Portorreal
PFC A. Siegel

FAREWELLS

Capt I. Alcalá
Capt E. Cluney
Capt J. Krysa
Capt B. McLean
Capt W. Smith
Capt L. Thompson
1stSgt T. Cochran
MSgt T. Coyle
MSgt D. Olson
MSgt L. Posey

GySgt D. Collet Jr.

GySgt K. Hunter
GySgt D. Skubinna
GySgt D. Whitfield
SSgt T. Brown
SSgt C. Camat
SSgt R. Harendt
SSgt R. Harrison
SSgt B. Stewart
Sgt M. Gatch
Sgt K. Holler
Sgt R. Romero
Cpl K. Gillow
LCpl E. Delladonna
LCpl D. Gomez

PROMOTIONS

MSgt T. Coyle
GySgt B. Potts
GySgt A. Valle
SSgt S. Henderson
Sgt D. Hylko

Sgt S. McCratic

Cpl A. Bertrand
Cpl A. Imlah
Cpl A. Lewis
Cpl M. Suares
Cpl W. Welch

RETIREMENTS

MSgt D. Smyth
GySgt J. Dupont
GySgt B. Jones
GySgt R. Straub

CIVILIAN AWARDS

Lovely Budd Time Off Award
Linda Lamoreux Time Off Award
Wayne Menard Time Off Award

FAREWELLS

Mr. LaDue
Ms. Williams
Mr. Ratchford

AWARDS

Capt I. Alcalá NC
Capt E. Cluney NAM
Capt J. Flynn NC
Capt J. Krysa NC
Capt B. McLean NC
Capt W. Smith NC
Capt L. Thompson NC
1stSgt T. Cochran NC
MSgt D. Olson NC
GySgt B. Jones NC
GySgt T. Harmon NAM
GySgt K. Hunter NC
SSgt R. Harrison NAM
Sgt K. Holler NAM
Cpl A. Bertrand GCM
Cpl M. Denney GCM
Cpl A. Lowe GCM
Cpl A. Robinson GCM
Cpl A. Macary GCM
LCpl T. Keefe MM

GCM
Good Conduct Medal

NAM
Navy Achievement Medal

NC
Navy and Marine Corps
Commendation Medal

MM
Meritorious Mast



Top's Tips – Up, up, and away - from the heat! -By HQCo

Did you know that the Palm Springs Tram is this area's most popular tourist destination? The largest rotating cable cars in the world provide an amazing scenic tour. The cable car starts in the Valley at approximately 2,600 feet and climbs 6,000 feet in fifteen minutes. Mt. San Jacinto is a scenic wonder. There are over 50 miles of hiking trails, not to mention the 5.5-mile trek from the cable car mountain station at 8,516 ft to the 10,834 ft summit. You have got to hike to the summit - amazing scenery. Check in at the Ranger Station for your hiking permit. You can also enjoy fine dining, nature walks, camping, and in the winter months - snowshoeing, cross country skiing, snow tubing, and snow camping. The mountain station has two restaurants, a snack bar, a theater, and a natural history museum. For overnight camping, contact (951) 659-2607.

Now is the time to go - it's free! July is the Tram Military Appreciation month. All military personnel receive FREE Tram admission with military ID. Their guests (limit 6) receive 25% off regular admission price. For more information call 888-515-TRAM. Offer valid 1-31 July. Additional information is available at ITT. The tram is open 7-days a week (M-F 10AM-11PM) with trams departing every half hour. Weekends and holidays hours are 8AM-11PM. Last tram up is at 9PM and last tram down is at 10:30PM. Adult cost is \$21.95, children ages 3-12 are \$14.95. A 10% military discount is available via ITT. Contact the Tram restaurant for dining reservations at (760) 327-1592. A Ride-n-Dine ticket is available after 3PM (adults are \$34.00 and children are \$22.00). Don't forget to take a jacket. Temperatures at the top are 20-30 degrees cooler. Sorry-no pets allowed.

Civilian Spotlight – Mr. Ray Greenidge, Alpha Company Barracks Manager

-By Capt A. Williams, Alpha Company XO

The quality of life in the barracks many years ago was determined by the amount of money the Battalion Supply Officer had to spend on things such as toilet paper, pine oil, and wax. Marines often went without or purchased supplies on their own to ensure they had what was needed to clean their rooms. Today, things are much different from the "old days". As you walk past Building 1666, you notice pampered shrubs and raked smooth sand outside, inside huge TVs and surround sound stereos. The cleanliness of the grounds and standard of living can only be a testament of the work of a few dedicated personnel such as Mr. "Ray" Greenidge.

Ray's determination, hard work, and genuine love for supporting the Marines in the barracks shows daily as he continues to improve the barracks, identifying safety issues, and immediately correcting concerns. Prior to Mr. Greenidge's arrival as the Barracks Manager the standards of the building were well below the Marine Corps standards, he has developed several processes that have drastically changed the building operations; to include improving the communications with FMD, training the Marines to apply self-help repairs and working with other MCCES sections to fully utilize all resources. Due to his tenacity, the barracks now operates at 97% occupancy rate, which hasn't been at this level in a very long time.

Ray doesn't just sit behind a desk and call in repairs, oh no.... he's out checking on the building. It's not "out of the norm" to find him actually pulling tools from his truck to fix toilets or broken door locks or equipment. He also fosters a professional and profanity free work environment. Ray's love for Marines didn't just happen over night, he developed it over time as he graduated boot camp at Parris Island, S.C. in 1964, served two tours in Vietnam and retired as a Master Sergeant with over 21 years of service.



Ground Communication Organizational Repair Course 2006040 graduated in front of staff and family on 6 July 2006. Among the twenty-two Marines graduating, three stood out from the rest and were recognized for their performance in and out of the classroom. Capt Darren Jester, OIC for OMTS training section, addressed the students and guests prior to the graduation ceremony. He pointed out the obvious strong points this class has carried with them from the beginning

GCORC 2006040 – Exemplifying Corps Values

-By C. Voneida and MSgt R. Holland

to the end of their 5-month training cycle. With a class overall academic average of 90.64% he applauded their high standards of discipline and commitment that “sets the Marine Corps apart from the other armed services.” Capt Jester also mentioned that the student’s end of course critiques reflected a great deal of credit to two instructors, SSgt Hibbard Keifert and Sgt Dustin Stephens. They felt their instructors exhibited the knowledge and qualities above and beyond the norm and this was a huge contributing factor to their success as a whole.

The Honor graduate with a 98.55% average was LCpl Vanhouten. He received a Certificate of Commendation, the Marine Corps Association Award and the book, *Rifleman Dodd*. The MCA is given to the honor graduate student in recognition of their high endeavors and superior accomplishment while enrolled in a course of study in professional education as prescribed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

The number two honor graduate with a 98.45% academic average was LCpl Wolfesen. LCpl Wolfesen also received a Certificate of Commendation.

A Meritorious Mast went to the number three honor graduate with a 95.15% academic average. PFC Rudolph receiving this honor was recognized for his superior performance in his use of self-study, classroom participation and hands-on training while striving for academic excellence. Rudolph was also voted by his class to be the Warrior Award recipient.

The Warrior Award is presented to the Marine who consistently displays our Corps values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. The Marine is selected by the class without any influence by the instructors or training staff.

Back row, L to R; Capt Jester, GySgt Maxwell, SSgt Keifert and Sgt Stephens. Front row, L to R; LCpl Vanhouten, LCpl Wolfesen and PFC Rudolph.

MCCES Security Detail Coordinator -By Charlie Company Staff

MCCES is asked to provide security for several events throughout the year to include concerts and sporting events. This detail is completely voluntary and provides an excellent opportunity for the Marines to get out of the barracks for a day.



Sgt Michael Bates, Charlie Company, took over as the MCCES coordinator for security events in May of this year. As the MCCES coordinator Sgt Bates receives information on upcoming events that would require security personnel and disseminates it out to all MCCES. He also passes the information

to units throughout MCAGCC asking for volunteers. He then coordinates transportation and ensures that the Marines who participate get safely transported to and from the events. He also supervises all Marines to make sure they are representing the Marine Corps and MCCES in an honorable fashion and ensures the Marines are taken care of by receiving proper treatment and getting food and water.

Up and Coming Events for Security Details

- *Sat 7/22 Ultimate Fighting @ the Fabulous Forum
- *Sat 7/22 Soccer @ LA Coliseum
- *Sat 7/29 R. B. D. in concert @ LA Coliseum
- *Sat 8/19 Korn @ Hyundai Pavilion
- *Sat 8/19 Def Leppard w/ Journey @ Verizon
- *Fri 8/25 Dave Mathews Band @ Verizon
- *Thurs 8/31 Red Hot Chili Peppers @ the Fabulous Forum
- *Fri-Sun 9/1, 2, 3 NASCAR returns to Cal Speedway in Fontana
- *Sat 9/2 UCLA football vs. Utah
- *Sat 9/9 UCLA football vs. Rice
- *Sat 9/9 Art LeBoe Oldies Concert (TBA) at Hyundai Pavilion
- *Sat 9/16 *USC football vs. Nebraska
- *Sat 9/16 Toby Keith @ Hyundai Pavilion
- *Sat 9/23 KROQ Inland Invasion Concert w/ Guns & Roses @ Hyundai Pavilion
- *Sat 9/30 UCLA football vs. Stanford
- *Sat 10/7 UCLA football vs. Arizona -
- *Sat 10/7 USC football vs. Washington
- *Sat 10/14 USC football vs. Arizona State
- *Sun 10/15 Brooks and Dunn (TBA) at Hyundai Pavilion
- *Sat 10/28 UCLA football vs. Washington State
- *Sat 11/11 UCLA football vs. Oregon State
- *Sat 11/11 USC football vs. Oregon
- *Sat 11/18 USC football vs. Cal
- *12/31/06- 1/1/07 Rose Parade coverage
- *1/1/07 Rose Bowl Game

MEMO FROM SECURITY FREE CREDIT REPORT

Before submitting the EPSQ for your security clearance you should check your credit history. You never know what might be out there! Below is information on how to obtain a free credit report:

A recent amendment to the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act requires each of the nationwide consumer reporting companies – Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion – to provide you with a free copy of your credit report, at your request, once every 12 months. But there’s only one online source authorized to do so. That’s annualcreditreport.com. Beware of other sites that may look and sound similar.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) advises consumers who order their free annual credit reports online to be sure to correctly spell annualcreditreport.com, or link to it from the FTC’s website to avoid being misdirected to other websites that offer supposedly free reports, but only with the purchase of other products. While consumers may be offered additional products or services while on the authorized website, they are not required to make a purchase to receive their free annual credit reports.

Chaplain’s Notes – LIFE IS A TEST -By Chaplain Lt E. R. Flint, CHC, USNR

In June, I experienced my first Commanding General’s Inspection at MCCES. Thankfully the “test” questions (checklists) were given in advance. Still, I found the “oral exams” to be tense at times – especially since the examiner was constantly taking notes while I spoke. Your grade is pass or fail: Mission Capable or not.

Rick Warren, in his book *The Purpose Driven Life*, says, “Character is both developed and revealed by tests, and all of life is a test. You are *always* being tested....When you understand that life is a test, you realize that *nothing* is insignificant in your life.

Every day is an important day, and every second is a growth opportunity to deepen your character, to demonstrate love, or to depend on God.”

Sometimes I think about the final exam at the end of our lives. Thank God He graciously gives us the key questions in advance. One of the final questions will be, “How did you spend your life?” It’s been said life is like a coin in your pocket. You can spend it anyway you want, but you can only spend it once. At the Inspector’s out brief, it was a relief to hear that your functional areas were “mission capable.” How much more rewarding it would be to hear, “Well done” from our Father in heaven! The Inspector’s report listed recommendations for corrective action. Here’s a recommendation to share with you from a wise man named Moses (who had a lot of tests in life!): “Teach us to number our days carefully, so that we may develop wisdom in our hearts” (Psalm 90:2).

May the Lord be with you in whatever tests you are facing. -Chaplain Flint

PREP and CREDO News

The remaining 2006 dates for the PREP course for married and engaged couples are: 16-18 Aug & 20-22 Sep. Please call the Protestant Chapel (830-6464) to sign up.

Upcoming CREDO retreats: (1) Personal Growth Retreat, 28-30 July at the Luther Glen Conference Center in Cherry Valley, CA. (2) Marriage Enrichment Retreat, 11-13 August at the Highland Hot Springs Resort in Beaumont, CA. Call 760-725-4954 to register.



Training Spotlight – OMTS *By SSgt Kucharski*

For missions requiring reliable, long-range communications equipment, Harris has developed the FALCON® II AN/PRC-150(C), the most advanced HF manpack radio in the world today. The AN/PRC-150(C) is certified by the National Security Agency (NSA) for its embedded information security features. It is designed to meet the demanding security requirements of military forces worldwide.

This radio also utilizes the latest technology to embed many advanced features that in the past required separate components, such as Automatic Link Establishment (ALE), high-speed modems, as well as Type I encryption. And being a software-defined radio helps make the FALCON II radios future proof. As new technology and waveforms are developed, the FALCON II can be upgraded to be compatible with future radios such as the Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) radios...and they will remain compatible with your radios currently in the field.

The AN/PRC-150(C) manpack is the basic building block for our HF systems. The FALCON II family also includes power amplifiers and antenna couplers. Our systems can be packaged for vehicular, transit case, or base station applications and we offer a number of accessories and antennas to complete your system.” *-from the RFComm.Harris manual*

At left, Sgt Aaron Gutierrez shows PFC Travis Main how to properly program an AN/TRC-209 Communications System. The AN/TRC-209 is an add-on component to the AN/PRC-150 family. It is a programmable High Frequency/Very High Frequency Communication System designed for ground-to-ground communications.

Organizational Maintenance Training Section’s (OMTS) mission is to train entry level students on organizational level corrective maintenance for single channel radios, tactical telephones, and tactical switchboards to the Line Replacement Unit Level.

OMTS instructor, Sgt Gutierrez, holds the 2862 MOS; Electronics Maintenance Technician. PFC Main is training for the MOS 2844; Ground Communication Organization Repairer.



Far right, SSgt D. G. Burlingame, Class Coordinator and far left, Sgt J. M. Jones, Asst. Class Coordinator proudly stand with TDNOC 12-06. Sgt Jones identified this class as “the best they’ve seen so far...in everything.”

TDNOC 12-06 Garners Bravo Company Director’s Award

Citation: Tactical Data Network Operator’s Course (TDNOC) 12-06 was in session from 19 April 2006 to 23 June 2006. During this period, the Marines who proudly carried the TDNOC 12-06 designation set a standard of excellence in academics, motivation, and discipline rarely achieved by any other Tactical Communication Training School class. TDNOC 12-06 supported academic integrity by maintaining a 96.4816 class grade point average. The Marines of TDNOC 12-06 also demonstrated quality physical conditioning by producing physical fitness test (PFT) scores in the range of 188 to 286 giving the class an average score of 253. The small unit

leaders in the class went above and beyond the call of duty spending countless hours with fellow Marines tutoring them and preparing them for the challenges to come. The Marines dedicated themselves to academic success and continually stayed motivated by utilizing their off-duty time to volunteer their services to setup and assist the Armed Forces YMCA during the soap box derby that was held for the children of the neighboring communities. TDNOC 12-06’s conduct exemplifies the very qualities found in Marines and has earned them the respect and appreciation of the school staff. With the distinction of being the fourth DTS class in FY 2006 to achieve this honor, TDNOC 12-06 has proudly and rightfully earned the Director’s Award.

BEFORE AND AFTER

Over the July 4th weekend, fire wasn’t the only element Mother Nature was blowing our way. During an unusual wind event, the sun shelter that normally sat on the south-east side of Building 1831, Charlie Company Maintenance, was ripped from it’s concrete footings and tossed completely over the building into the back lot of Building 1825, Bravo Company TMEOC’s area. As you can see, it was a total loss.



Hazardous Waste – By SSgt J. Byrd

The MCCES Hazardous Material Collection Site, also known as the Satellite Accumulation Area (SAA), is located on the south side of Building 1855. The SAA is located in a fenced in an area accessible through the Charlie Compound.

The SAA is accessible to MCCES personnel for the disposal of hazardous material and contaminated waste. Within the site, 35 gallon drums have been designated for the proper disposal of each class of waste items such as latex and aerosol paints, contaminated dry sweep, soldering waste, oil, transmission filters, and toner cartridges.

There are also red household hazardous waste containers that have been set aside for the disposal of additional items such as miscellaneous aerosol cans, alkaline batteries, fax cartridges, rechargeable nickel metal hydride batteries, and nickel cadmium batteries. Additionally, there is an area set aside for the preparation of lead cell batteries for transport to the Base Hazardous Material Minimization Lot, Building 2094.



The one item that is never, repeat, never stored at the SAA is lithium batteries. Under no circumstances should lithium batteries be placed in the SAA. All lithium batteries are to be stored in Building 1850. Contact the safety office for access to Building 1850 and the proper storage procedures of lithium batteries.



MCCES Satellite Accumulation Area – Located on the south side of Building 1855, the SAA may be utilized during normal working hours. Anyone is allowed to drop off items using the marked containers.

FIRE INSPECTION RESULTS

Every year the Combat Center Fire Department (CCFD) conducts a MCCES fire inspection. Their objective is to determine if MCCES is proactive in meeting its commitment to fire prevention. It also, evaluates our fire response.

Several recurring problems were identified during the recent inspection:

- Electrical hazards. Coffee pots **MUST** be plugged into a wall outlet (not a power strip).
- Fire extinguishers were not being inspected regularly. They need to be inspected and the tag signed every 30 days.
- Poor housekeeping was also noted. Neat, clean work and living areas denote attention to detail, which can prevent fires.

-There were also several non-functioning exit signs. Worse yet, several exit doors were locked blocking the egress for personnel.

Lets ensure we comply with all fire regulations. Inspect extinguishers, train personnel, and conduct fire drills.

Thank you for your continued effort in fire prevention.

EMS INSPECTION RESULTS

Every six months the 29 Palms Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division (NREA) conducts an Environmental Management System (EMS) inspection. The purpose of the inspection is to insure MCCES is adhering to Federal and State laws that manage and protect the environment. EMS has the responsibility of insuring we recycle properly and that we accurately identify and properly dispose of our hazardous materials. Our recent inspection noted only a few discrepancies, of which, three problems were corrected immediately. These results are awesome! Kudos to everyone for your support, efforts, and adherence to regulations.



Ocean Safety

Learn to swim. The best thing anyone can do to stay safe in and around the water is to learn to swim--this includes adults and children. Stay within the designated swimming area, ideally within the visibility of a lifeguard.

Never swim alone.

Check the surf conditions **before** you enter the water. Check to see if a warning flag is up or check with a lifeguard for water conditions, beach conditions, or any potential hazards.

Stay away from piers, pilings, and diving platforms when in the water. Keep a lookout for aquatic life. Water plants and animals may be dangerous. Avoid patches of plants. Leave animals alone. Make sure you always have enough energy to swim back to shore. Don't try to swim against a current if caught in one. Swim gradually out of the current, by swimming across it.

The American Red Cross has an excellent website covering a wide variety of water-safety tips. View their website at:
<http://www.redcross.org/services/hss/tips/healthtips/safetywater.html>



...Think safety, practice safety – be safe. Be alert, aware, and able to manage risk all day, every day.

The Navy and Marine Corps safety team has developed a new theme called “**24/7: Operation Summer Force Preservation.**” The goal of this outreach strategy is to remind Sailors and Marines of their responsibility to be alert, aware, and able to manage risk all day, every day. You can download the following “24/7” resources: the media kit (speech, program ideas, planning tips, contacts), activity planner, camera-ready artwork, and multimedia resources (recreation and off-duty presentations, posters, videos). We encourage you to use this planner and develop your own “24/7” campaign. At the end of your campaign, we invite you to share your success stories or let us know how we can help improve your next campaign by completing the feedback sheet in the media kit. For access to the media kits and more information on this program go to www.safetycenter.navy.mil/seasonal/criticaldays/default.htm.

Non Judicial Punishment Tally for May and June 2006 - By Capt L. Perrone

During the two-month period of this newsletter, there was a total of 32- Non-Judicial Proceedings (NJP's) conducted at MCCES. The NJP's were on student personnel and vast majorities were from Bravo Company with alcohol related incidents. MCCES had a total of 7- Administrative Separations. Compromising your Corps Values through bad conduct can cost you!
Always do the right thing in everything you do!



EOR

Sexual Harassment is a form of discrimination that involves unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1) Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a person's job, pay, career, or

2) Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a person is used as a basis for career or employment decisions affecting that person or

3) Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment.

..."Additionally, officers and enlisted personnel of the Navy or Marine Corps will be processed for administrative separation on the first substantiated incident of sexual harassment involving any of the following circumstances: (An incident is considered substantiated if there is a courts-martial conviction or the commanding officer determines sexual harassment has occurred).

1) Actions, threats, or attempts to influence another's career or job for sexual favors; or 2) Physical contact of a sexual nature, which if charged as a violation of the UCMJ, could result in a punitive discharge"

Threatening the career, job, salary:

- Article 127 Extortion
- Article 128 Assault
- Article 134 Communicating a threat

Making sexual comments and/or gestures:

- Article 117 Provoking speech and gestures
- Article 134 Indecent, insulting, or obscene language prejudicial to good order and discipline

Observation of Sexual Harassment and neither stopping it or reporting it to the proper authorities:

- Article 77 Violation of principle

Below states the Maximum Punishments

Punishment under UCMJ Article 127:

- Dishonorable Discharge
- Forfeiture of all pay/allowances
- Confinement 3 years

Punishment under UCMJ Article 128:

- Confinement for 3 months
- Forfeiture of 2/3 pay for 3 months

Punishment under UCMJ Article 134:

- Dishonorable Discharge
- Forfeiture of all pay/allowances
- confinement for 3 years

Punishment under UCMJ Article 117:

- Confinement 6 months
- Forfeiture 2/3 pay for 6 months

Punishment under UCMJ Article 134:

- Communicated to any child under the age of 16 years.
- Dishonorable Discharge
- Forfeiture of all pay/allowances
- Confinement for 2 years

Punishment under UCMJ Article 77:

- Dishonorable Discharge
- Forfeit all pay
- Confinement 6 months

UVA

As a battalion Uniformed Victims Advocate, I have noticed that many victims and perpetrators of sexual assault are not always aware of what behaviors actually constitute this heinous crime.

According to a new Marine Corps policy, sexual assault is defined as, "...intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent." It includes actual or attempted rape, nonconsensual sodomy, and indecent assault.

It is important to note that intoxicated people and sleeping people cannot give consent to sex. The message that everyone needs to understand is "no means no", no matter what. People can give consent to one sexual act, but say no to another. It does not matter if the people involved have had sex with one another before, or if one person is behaving in a sexual manner. If someone says no to a sexual act or cannot give consent, then if the act continues after that, it can be considered sexual assault.

"Rape and other sexual assaults are violent crimes that violate human dignity and the deeply held values of the Corps and the military as a whole. Sexual assault is unacceptable and will not be tolerated."

-- Gen. William L. Nyland, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, testimony 25 Feb 04 before Personnel Subcommittee of the SASC concerning sexual assault prevention.

SACO

TEST YOUR ALCOHOL I.Q.

1. Does alcohol destroy brain cells?
2. Is white wine a good choice for a person who wants a light drink with less alcohol?
3. Is a "beer belly" caused by drinking beer?
4. Does switching between beer, wine and spirits lead to intoxication more quickly than sticking to one type of alcoholic beverage?
5. Will drinking coffee help a drunken person sober up?
6. Does drinking long enough cause a person to become an alcoholic?

ANSWERS

1. The moderate consumption of alcohol does not destroy brain cells. In fact it is often associated with improved cognitive (mental) functioning.
2. A glass of white or red wine, a bottle of beer, and a shot of whiskey or other distilled spirits all contain equivalent amounts of alcohol and are the same to a Breathalyzer. A standard drink is:
A 12-ounce bottle or can of regular beer
A 5-ounce glass of wine
A one and 1/2 ounce of 80 proof distilled spirits (either straight or in a mixed drink).
3. A "beer belly" is caused by eating too much food. No beer or other alcoholic beverage is necessary.
4. The level of blood alcohol content (BAC) is what determines sobriety or intoxication. Remember that a standard drink of beer, wine, or spirits contain equivalent amounts of alcohol. Alcohol is alcohol and a drink is a drink.
5. Only time can sober up a person...not black coffee, cold showers, exercise, or any other common "cures." Alcohol leaves the body of virtually everyone at a constant rate of about .015 percent of blood alcohol content (BAC) per hour. Thus, a person with a BAC of .015 would be completely sober in an hour while a person with a BAC of ten times that (.15) would require 10 hours to become completely sober. This is true regardless of sex, age, weight, and similar factors.
6. There is simply no scientific basis for this misperception, which appears to have its origin in temperance and prohibitionist ideology. Visit the SACO web site on the MCCES Intranet for more information and pertinent links.

JULY SMP CALENDAR

Watch for Universal Studios Day Trip Departing: 8 a.m.
\$37 includes transportation and entrance

11 & 25 July- SMP Pool Tournament

Registration begins at 5 p.m. / Tournament starts at 7 p.m.
\$5 entry fee

22 July - Pirates Dinner Adventure Departing: noon from the Zone
\$40 – transportation and dinner

1-31 July Palm Springs Tram Military Appreciation Days
FREE TO ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL– 25% off for dependants and guests



ONLY 3.5 MONTHS TO THE 231ST MARINE CORPS BALL

9 Nov 06 at Primm, Nevada



MCCES Marines Rock-n-Roll

-By LtCol D. D. Tolbert



MCCES runners recently participated in the annual San Diego Rock-n-Roll Marathon.

The race is billed as one of America's fastest and most scenic courses, racing around Balboa Park, downtown and Mission Bay. The marathon, which debuted a new course in 2005 to minimize interference with the trolley lines, started on the edges of Balboa Park, snaked around downtown's Petco Park, Gas Lamp Quarter and Harbor. The Marine Corps Recruit Depot served as the finish line and festival area.

Nearly 18,000 competitors were rewarded with perfect weather for the 4 June event - overcast and cool temperatures. The Company B contingent included MSgt Shawn Tate 4:08:32, GySgt Glenn Smith 4:41:48, and SSgt John Baker who finished in 5:00:27. Company C squad led by their first finisher all said they enjoyed the experience. Sergeant Eric Sharpe finished in 4:02:39, SSgt Kiphart ran a 4:08:44, Cpl Jose Zamora completed his first marathon with a very respectable 4:18:39. He was followed by Cpl Jonathan Leclair with a 4:44:37. MCCES top long distance female runner, GySgt Adelita Valle, ran a 5:19:47. HQ's Company sole runner was the Bn XO, LtCol Donald Tolbert, who came in at 3:48:34.

MCCES leads the Summer sports league once again with their Powerhouse Soccer and Softball teams.

To date the Soccer team is leading the season with a 5-1 record. The Softball team lead the base season with a 16-1 record and swept the finals with a 4-0 record bringing home the CG's Cup. Both teams sport permanent personnel, student personnel and military dependants.

CG's Golf Tournament

-By MCCES Staff

Five MCCES teams participated in the 2006 CG's golf tournament. The 4-day event began on 15 May 2006. Carl Levering, (C Co MGySgt Ret), posted the three best single day scores for all golfers. The next lowest scores were posted by MSgt Shawgo (C Co) 80, SSgt Paulk (A Co) scored an 81, and CWO Traquair (A Co) shot an 82. The scores of each team were tallied daily. Unfortunately, HQBn had the two best teams and garnered 1st place with an overall score of 1,346. MCCES, Team #2 was awarded 2nd place in the CG cup standings. Tanks picked up 3rd place. Team #2 consisted of Mr Levering, GySgt Stokes (A Co), MSgt Payne (A Co), MSgt Shawgo, 1stSgt Greene (A Co), and Capt Traquair (A Co).



2ND ANNUAL MCCES FUN RUN

29 SEP 10K / HALF / FULL
MARATHON

SOCCER & SOFTBALL



TEAMS DOMINATE SEASON

